

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEELANAU COUNTY SOLID WASTE COUNCIL WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023 AT THE LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER.

Proceedings of the meeting were recorded and are not the official record of the meeting. The formally approved written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Director Galla. The meeting was held at the Leelanau County Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Dr., Suttons Bay MI.

Galla welcomed new members and asked them to share a little bit about themselves.

Cavanaugh said she used to do some regulations of county landfill in her former life. She was an assistant Attorney General and worked on the environmental programs for the state. She felt this opportunity would be a way to support the community and be a part of Leelanau.

Petersen said he got interested in environmental issues while on active duty in the navy and got to walk on water in the Pacific Ocean. The plastic gathering on the ocean is so bad you can actually walk on it. He is a retired navy officer and he was emergency services manager for the county for five years.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: L. Bahle, J. Fletcher, A. Gale, T. MacDonald, C. Sharp, K. Ross
K. Cavanaugh, T. Petersen

Members Absent: P. Deering, M. Bevelhymer (Ex-officio member)

Ex-officio Members Present: J. Palmer

Staff: T. Galla, Director, G. Myer, Senior Planner

Public: B. Perkins

PUBLIC COMMENT

Perkins stated that the Kasson Township people don't want to run the Cedar recycling site anymore. If the county buys property and starts a new recycling site, the county is going to run it. He thinks that if the county told Kasson Township they would take the site over and run it, they would like that. The township is spending more money than they are receiving from the county. Perkins said he spoke with the road commission about plowing the circle at the recycling site and they said they could do that. This would take a huge chunk out of the townships expense for maintaining the site.

Perkins continued, saying that the Suttons Bay recycling site needs a light, and the SWC should put a request to Suttons Bay Village for a street light. The road commission does not have any electricity on that side of the road and there needs to be a light where the cars exit.

STAFF COMMENTS

Galla informed members that the HHW (Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Collection) dates have been set for 2023 and that information will appear in the *Enterprise* soon. Also, there will be two tire recycling events and one mattress collection. Residents can sign up online for the HHW collections

at leelanau.gov. For the tires and mattress's residents will need to call the planning office to make an appointment and make payment.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

Galla added Item "D" under "New Business" - Cedar recycling site and Item "E", Light at Suttons Bay recycling site.

Motion by Macdonald, seconded by Fletcher, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 8-0.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Election of Officers

Chairman

Motion by Sharp, seconded by Gale, to nominate Bahle as Chairman. With no further nominations, the motion on the table carried 8-0.

Vice-Chairman

Motion by Sharp, seconded by Bahle, to nominate Gale as Vice-Chairman. With no further nominations, the motion carried 8-0.

Chairman Pro-Tem

Motion by Bahle, seconded by Gale, to nominate Fletcher as Chairman Pro-Tem. With no further nominations, the motion carried 8-0.

Review and Adoption of Rules of Procedure

Galla reviewed the document and stated that there were no changes made.

Motion by Sharp, seconded by Gale, to adopt the Rules of Procedure as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

Consideration of 2023 Meeting Schedule

Motion by Petersen, seconded by Fletcher, to adopt the 2023 meeting schedule as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

2023 Goals

Fletcher said he resurveyed the schools and they are still interested in composting and they would like to partner with the SWC if the opportunity becomes available. The Leelanau. School wants the SWC

to look at the initiative that they have incorporated regarding recycling called Green School Certification. The school would like the SWC to consider making this part of their general recycling composting initiative for the county. Fletcher continued, saying eliminating single use bottles at the government center has been discussed in the past and they are still being used. Galla mentioned that faucets are not set up to fill water bottles, and Covid also presented an issue. Conversion kits for the drinking fountains are available and information was passed on to the maintenance department. The water at the government center is drinkable, although it doesn't taste the best, so some of the offices pay out of their own pocket for bottled water. Galla concluded by saying this is something that could be bid out, if the county board was interested.

Discussion on goals continued.

Members agreed to the following goals for 2023.

1. Continue exploring composting and collaboration with schools
2. Pursue drinking fountain conversion kits
3. Host home composting seminars
4. Improve recycling at the government center, more containers etc.

Motion by Gale, seconded by Sharp, to accept the 2023 Goals. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDERATION OF NOVEMBER 5, 2022 MINUTES

Motion by MacDonald, seconded by Gale, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

RFPs - HHW/Electronics services and Recycling Services after 2023

Galla said all of the recycling site agreements will expire this year along with HHW contracts and the recycling contract with GFL (Green For Life). The host site agreements will be sent out soon requesting the host to renew the agreement. Galla continued, saying that they have had contracts with GFL f/k/a American Waste, for quite a few years for the HHW collections, recycling program. Would the SWC like to review the language before they are released for bids? Galla is not sure if there are any others options besides GFL to handle the recycling program. Sharp questioned if there was specific language or things that are missing in the contract. Galla said that in the past they have talked about GFL having a person on staff cleaning up the recycling sites. Usually, the driver empties the bins and picks up, but this would be another person checking on the sites.

Bahle stated that members could review the host site agreements via email and respond that way.

Members agreed that they would like to review a draft of the proposed recycling proposals at their next meeting. Galla stated that she is anticipating an increase with the HHW contracts, possibly the recycling as well, and they may need to ask the county board to increase the \$29 recycling fee to help cover costs.

Approve Mailing for 2023

Galla reported that last year the SWC spent about \$5,000.00 on the postcards that were mailed out in June. The response from those was big and the number of calls about issues went way down.

Motion by Gale, seconded by Ross, to approve a post card mailing up to \$5,000.00, including printing cost, and postage. Motion carried 8-0.

Update Regional Solid Waste Council

Galla explained this group gets together mainly by zoom to discuss funding and operating a HHW site that is open year-round. They also discuss changes in the laws, and solid waste management. It looks like a new type of plan is going to be required. Gale said he heard in a meeting that Part 115 will be finished by this fall and then they will release county contracts, \$60,000.00/year, for a 3-year period. Counties can either consolidate with other counties or work by themselves to figure out how they are going to take care of solid waste. Galla mentioned recycling grants available, but not being targeted for rural counties.

Cedar Recycling Site

Galla said there were some very active people in Cedar who didn't want that site to go away, but it is. However, it will be relocated at Buntings Market. The owner stepped forward and contacted Ray Pleva and Galla, and has signed his part of a 5-year agreement. The County board will meet at a special session next Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. for review of the agreement. Two of the bins from the old site have been moved to the Glen Lake School and the others will be moved to Buntings. The other bins have been left at the current site until this new one is up and running and the township said they are okay with that.

Motion by Gale, seconded by Sharp, to recommend the County Board enter into a 5-year contract with Buntings Market. Motion carried 8-0.

Light at Suttons Bay site

Galla stated that Perkins brought forward a suggestion today and it was added to the agenda, so if members are in favor of this, they can direct staff to contact the village to see about putting a light up in that area.

Discussion ensued.

Bahle questioned whether it would be the village or does the road commission have any lights in the back storage area. Perkins stated that there isn't any electricity on that side of the road, but there is ambient light that comes from the sign. Perkins continued (not audible) then said it's the exit from the recycling site onto Eckerle Rd. that should be lit. Maybe if there was electricity on a pole, the cameras could be moved to the pole. Gale questioned if light from across the road could be directed over there. Perkins said if there was a streetlight on a pole just opposite the exit, with the light directed towards the exit, that would work. If someone is exiting on foot or riding a bike, not a car with headlights after dark, (not audible). Consensus of members to have staff explore putting a light in at the Suttons Bay recycling site.

COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE – None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Perkins mentioned things being left at the recycling sites and stated that the Peshawbestown site could use a fence and with the swamp behind Buntings, they will need one also. Perkins then wanted to know who the ambassadors are going to be for the new site.

STAFF COMMENTS

Galla mentioned that they had applied back in November for 2% grants from GTB Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians for tires and mattress recycling, but she hasn't heard back yet.

MEMBER/CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Sharp commented on the online survey and said it was really good and wondered what the response on that was. Galla said that was part of the regional solid waste group.

MacDonald urged members to reply to staff only when replying to an email instead of selecting "reply all." This will avoid any violation of the open meetings act.

Fletcher asked for an update on the impact of the cameras at the sites. Galla said one of the companies she thought would work best for the areas where a longer shot was needed, hasn't worked out very well. The gentleman she was working with was relocated to another part of the company and since then it hasn't been good. The other company won't take over those cameras though so they may need to be replaced in the future. The Empire site is working great. There are four cameras in Elmwood and law enforcement is also using them. The Cedar camera was not located in the best location, and Peshawbestown didn't want any cameras. She has been in contact with the road commission regarding an issue with a power pole at their site. She is still working on the Northport site and there hasn't been any issues at the Leelanau School.

Perkins questioned if he should go to the road commission and ask them to view the footage to find the culprit who left oil.

Ross said she is the new County Board member who was just appointed and she is really pleased. She previously served as the district forester and this was the one committee she really wanted to get on. Bahle said they were pleased as well.

ADJOIURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 1:56 p.m.